(c) to (e) Directorate General of Anti-Dumping and Allied Duties (DGAD) under Department of Commerce has informed that domestic industry had recently filed applications with the Directorate for imposition of anti-dumping duty on imports of (i) Cold rolled Flat Products of Stainless Steel and (ii) Hot Rolled Products of Steel from China PR and other countries. The Designated Authority, after examining the applications, has decided to initiate anti-dumping investigation as per the provisions of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975. The question regarding imposition of anti dumping duty with retrospective effect or otherwise will arise only after investigations are completed in these cases.

**National Steel Policy**

2168. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has drafted a National Steel Policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) Government has approved a National Steel Policy in November 2005. The salient features of the National Steel Policy are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) Does not arise in view of the (a) and (b) above.

***Statement***

The following are some of the salient features of the National Steel Policy 2005 (NSP):

- The NSP sets out a broad roadmap for the Indian Steel Industry in its journey towards reform, restructuring and globalisation.
- The long-term goal of the NSP is that India should have a moderm and efficient steel industry of world standards, catering to diversified steel demand. The focus of the policy is to achieve global competitiveness not only in terms of cost, quality and product-mix but also in terms of global benchmarks of efficiency and productivity.
- The NSP seeks to adopt a multi-pronged strategy to move towards the long-term policy goal. On the demand side, the strategy would be to create incremental demand through promotional efforts, creation of awareness and strengthening the delivery chain, particularly in rural areas. On the supply side, the strategy would be to facilitate creation of additional capacity, remove procedural and policy bottlenecks in the availability of inputs such as iron ore and coal, make higher investments in R&D and encourage the creation of infrastructure such as roads, railways, and ports.
- The NSP acknowledges the low per capita consumption of steel in the country, especially in the rural areas and the need to boost steel consumption to improve quality of life and help in meeting the growing aspirations of masses.
- The NSP seeks to support developing of risk-hedging instruments like futures and derivatives to contain price volatility in the steel market.

- The NSP seeks to strengthen the existing training and research facilities available to the domestic steel industry so as to provide suitable training programmes especially for the secondary small-scale units and also to collect and analyze data on important parameters of the industry.
- The NSP seeks to mount aggressive R&D efforts to create manufacturing capability for special types of steel, substitute coking coal, use iron ore fines, develop new products suited to rural needs, enhance material and energy efficiency, utilize waste and arrest environmental degradation.
- The NSP acknowledges the important role played by the secondary steel sector in providing employment, meeting local demand of steel in rural and semi-urban areas and meeting the country's demand of some special products and seeks to endeavor to provide the necessary feedstock to these units at reasonable prices from major plants through the existing mechanism of State Small Industries Corporations.
- The NSP recognizes the fact that integration of the Indian steel industry with the global economy requires that the industry should be protected from unfair trade practices, which become common especially during periods of downturn. The NSP therefore, envisages institution of mechanisms for import surveillance and monitoring export subsidies in other countries.

**Consumption and pricing of iron-ore**

2169.SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the annual domestic consumption of iron-ore in the country and the total quantity of iron-ore exported during the year 2007-08 in comparison to the year 2006-07 till 31.3.2008, and of what quality;

(b) the total production of iron-ore and its domestic sales during the said period;

(c) the details of prices of iron-ore during May, 2006 to May, 2008;

(d) the details of various taxes and the rates at which they are being levied indicating whether Government proposes to impose *ad valorem* duty on all iron-ore exports; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) The annual domestic consumption and export of iron-ore in the year 2006-07 and 2007-08 (till 31.3.2008) is given below:

(Unit: million tonnes)

| Year | Domestic consumption (Lumps + Fines) | Exports | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 64% Fe and above (Lumps & Fines) and Fines) | Between 62-64% Fe (Lumps Fines) | Below 62 % Fe (Lumps and | Total |
| 2006-07 (Provisional) | 68.5 | 13.52 | 31.10 | 49.17 | 93.79 |
| 2007-08 (Estimated) | 185* | 12.15 | 25.29 | 66.83 | 104.27 |

* Estimated by Ministry of Steel.

(Source: For Production and domestic consumption, IBM; for Export, MMTC)